

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

underlined material is to be inserted, [bracketed] material is to be deleted, and --material set off by dashes-- is to be added.

Claims:

10. (Amended) Apparatus for processing an elastomeric article in the form of a glove, comprising:

an enclosure having a gas-filled interior;

a support that supports the [elastomeric article] glove within the enclosure at an article support location, wherein the support comprises

a form that receives the glove thereon, and

a source of gaseous pressure to inflate the glove on the form;

a source of a gaseous cleaning agent operable to introduce a gaseous flow of the gaseous cleaning agent into the interior of the enclosure to flow past the article support location and to contact the [elastomeric article] glove, the cleaning agent being operable to dislodge a particulate contaminant from the [elastomeric article] glove and entrain the particulate contaminant in the gaseous flow as it passes by the [elastomeric article] glove, wherein the source of the gaseous cleaning agent comprises

a nebulizer source of a vaporized cleaning material, and

a weakly ionized plasma source disposed within the interior of the enclosure and proximate to the article support location to create a weakly ionized plasma in the ambient atmosphere adjacent to the article support location;

an exhaust port positioned to receive the gaseous flow after it has passed by the [elastomeric article] glove; and

a particle counter that monitors the particles in the gaseous flow after it has passed by the [elastomeric article] glove.

Cancel claim 11, without prejudice.

12. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [11] 10, wherein the source of gaseous pressure is a pulsing source of gaseous pressure.

13. (Amended) [The apparatus of claim 10, further including an elastomeric article] Apparatus for processing an elastomeric article in the form of a glove, comprising:

an enclosure having a gas-filled interior, the enclosure having a gland seal therethrough;

a support that supports the glove within the enclosure at an article support location, the support comprising a human hand and arm extending through the gland seal and upon which the glove is worn;

a source of a gaseous cleaning agent operable to introduce a gaseous flow of the gaseous cleaning agent into the interior of the enclosure to flow past the glove and to contact the glove, the cleaning agent being operable to dislodge a particulate contaminant from the glove and entrain the particulate contaminant in the gaseous flow as it passes by the glove, wherein the source of the gaseous cleaning agent comprises

a nebulizer source of a vaporized cleaning material, and

a plasma source disposed within the interior of the enclosure and proximate to the article support location to create a weakly ionized plasma in the ambient atmosphere adjacent to the glove;

an exhaust port positioned to receive the gaseous flow after it has passed by the glove; and

a particle counter that monitors the particles in the gaseous flow after it has passed by the glove.

20. (Amended) A method for processing an elastomeric article in the form of a glove, comprising the step of

supporting the glove on a form at an article support location, the glove being

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inflated on the form:

passing a gaseous flow of a gaseous cleaning agent to contact the elastomeric article positioned at an article support location, the cleaning agent being operable to dislodge a particulate contaminant from the elastomeric article and entrain the particulate contaminant in the gaseous flow as it passes by the elastomeric article, wherein the source of the gaseous cleaning agent comprises

a nebulizer source of a vaporized cleaning material, and

a weakly ionized plasma source disposed within the interior of the enclosure and proximate to the article support location to create a weakly ionized plasma in the ambient atmosphere adjacent to the article support location; and

measuring the particulate content of the gaseous flow after it has passed by the elastomeric article.

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